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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
(Case No. 213.003-D3)

In the Application of: YE, ET AL.	) Group Art Unit:
	)
Serial No: DIVISIONAL OF 10/677,563	) Examiner:
	)
Filed: JANUARY 23, 2004	)
	)
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MONITORING	)
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT FABRICATION	)

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above-referenced application, kindly amend the application as follows: